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Flooding batters biology building

A leaky sink led to recent damage to several rooms throughout Albers Hall

BY ALANNA BELMONT
Staff Writer

A substantial amount of water leaking from 305 B (a storage room) in Albers Hall attracted the attention of a member of the custodial staff last Thursday around 11:45 p.m. Xavier Police (XUPD) and maintenance staff were immediately notified and rushed to the scene to try to minimize the damage.

It was discovered that the leak originated in a sink with a rubber attachment that extended from the main plumbing to allow for easy scientific instrument cleaning. The problem, however, was that this sink did not have the retrofitted auto shut off valve that ensured no water would seep between the metal and rubber piping.

“We’ve pulled all the others in Albers that haven’t been retrofitted,” Executive Director of Physical Plant John Schulte said.

Yet the damage caused by the separation of the valve

was monumental. Schulte said the rooms most affected were the main lecture hall (room 103), a group of first-floor offices (rooms 105 A-D), a Human Physiology lab (room 203) and the storage room where the leak began.

Biology department chair Dr. William Anyonge noted the effects in room 203, directly below 305 B where the leak occurred.

“When I first saw it, it looked like the ceiling had exploded,” Anyonge said. “With those ceiling tiles, the water just kept building and building, and it couldn’t hold it anymore.”

Room 203, the Human Physiology lab, could have suffered the most damage, but thanks to the proactive cleaning methods of whoever was in the lab last, only a computer sustained any damage.

The building structure of Albers, however, did not skate by as easily. Three 2x2 LED lights had to be replaced because of water exposure, and



Photo courtesy of Physical Plant

Last week’s flooding in Albers Hall caused damage throughout the building as water leaked downward from the third floor. A number of baseboards, ceiling tiles and drywall had to be removed from various classrooms.

a significant number of baseboards, ceiling tiles and even drywall had to be removed from within various classrooms.

“There was still old plaster work that was in here prior to

the newer remodels where it’s all drywall, and it took a little longer than expected to dry things because we had to dry the plaster,” Schulte said.

Albers’ last building remodel occurred 26 years ago in 1992. Although there have been slight upgrades throughout the years — such as the addition of auto shut off valves to sinks — none have addressed some of its more serious structural issues.

“The basement floods a couple of times a year,” Dr. Jennifer Robbins, who teaches at 9 and 10 a.m. in Albers 103, said. “Although my office isn’t affected, everybody else has to move out of the hallway.”

As a result of the damage, many classes were relocated to Hailstones or Logan halls, and some were even moved to the Conaton Board Room located in Schmidt Hall.

Despite the sudden relocation, one of Robbins’ students actually prefers the change.

“When I think of a college classroom, I think of a room like Hailstones,” first-year biomedical sciences major Aidan Noga said. “Albers is difficult for my professor to pass out assignments and just hard to work in in general. I think updating the building could be beneficial.”

Even with updates, Anyonge said, it would have been difficult to prevent this most recent bout of flooding.

“There wasn’t much to do here, prevention-wise,” Anyonge said. “It’s not like when the Albers basement occasionally floods due to heavy rains, it’s just that these pipes are old and need to be replaced. But that, of course, requires funding, which can be hard to come by.”



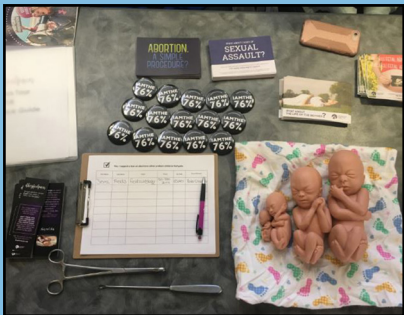
Photo courtesy of Physical Plant

The lack of an auto shut off valve on a sink in a third-floor storage room in Albers Hall set off a wave of flooding last week. The rooms most affected by the flooding included first-floor offices, the main lecture hall and a lab.

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Students for Life held a “They Feel Pain” table that generated debate among passersby.



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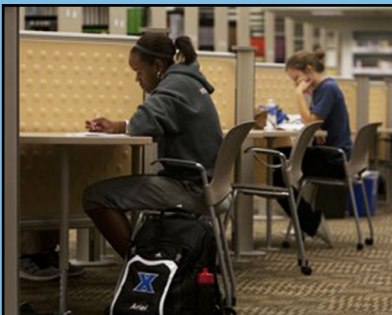
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The cross country teams concluded their regular seasons last weekend at Bradley.



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Fresh off mid-terms, here are some tips for staying on track for the rest of the semester.



Pro-life club, They Feel Pain display in GSC

By **BRITTANY WELLS**
Staff Writer

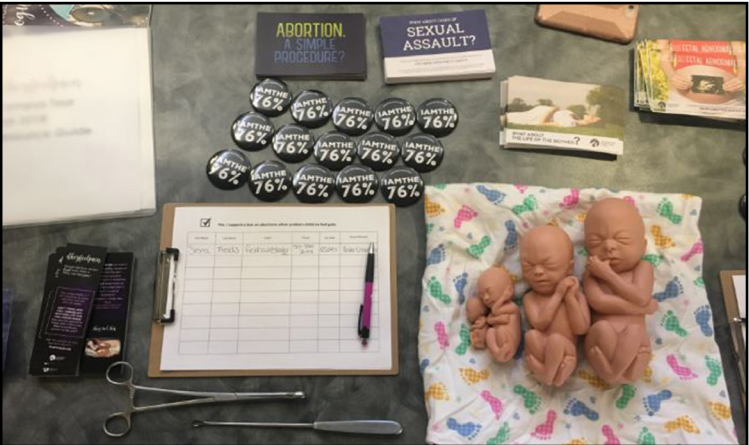
Students for Life (S4L), a pro-life student club, hosted a “Students for Life of America” table titled “They Feel Pain”

yesterday. The display stated that fetuses can feel pain at 20 weeks after conception. S4L also facilitated a signing of a petition for a federal ban on abortion 20 weeks

after conception. “Currently, Ohio is one of the 19 states that does have a ban after 20 weeks, so we want to spread information about the issue in order to make the ban nationwide,” S4L President Anna Gayford said. This was the first time the display has been presented on campus. “Discussions our club will have will at least cause students to think a little bit more about abortion than they normally would on a Tuesday afternoon. This may lead to more conversations among friends, or... a little reminder for another day.” Junior international business major Allison Schroeder didn’t think a little reminder was all students or other pass-

ersby would take with them. “When I first walked into (GSC), I was pretty disturbed about the display organized by Students for Life,” Schroeder said. “I have seen other pro-life campaigns before, but never on Xavier’s campus like this one.” Schroeder did not dismiss the members of S4L’s freedom to express their opinions on an issue they are passionate about but found the messaging to be hostile. “Their display sends an aggressive message that people who have had an abortion — which includes students, faculty and staff — have made the wrong choice,” she said. Schroeder noted that because GSC is a hub of activi-

ty on campus for members of the Xavier community, there is no way for the S4L club members to know the experiences that passersby have had with abortion. “Entering GSC and seeing their display could be incredibly triggering to students who have experienced this kind of trauma,” Schroeder said. S4L asserts that this display was not meant to alienate pro-life or pro-choice individuals. “We hope that this event can bring together both pro-choice and pro-life students to agree that it is scientifically proven that babies feel pain by 20 weeks and as a result, abortion should be banned,” S4L member Lily Hutkowski said.



Newswire photo by Brittany Wells
Students for Life presented the display, “They feel pain,” yesterday in GSC. Some students found the tabling and display to be insensitive.

A look inside the job: Gallagher Welcome Desk

By **ALEX BUDZYNSKI**
Guest Writer

You walk through the double glass doors of Gallagher Student Center (GSC) and into a bustling world of students quietly studying, hurrying to meetings and enjoying a good time with friends. The aroma of freshly brewed coffee floods your senses, and gentle background music billows throughout the building. It can be easy to miss those hard at work directly to the left at the welcome desk. Working at the GSC Welcome Desk is an opportunity for a part time, on-campus job for students. Employees answer questions about campus for visitors and check out games and laptops to students. They also fix printers, manage the lost and found, choose music to play over the speakers, man the phone and, of course, greet all those walk-

ing into the student center. Lizzy Rehkamp, a first-year nursing major, has come to enjoy her job at GSC throughout the past few months. She got the job at a campus job fair on the first day of classes this semester, following an on-the-spot interview. This position helps students build relationships on campus and strengthen people skills. “Working at Gallagher can open up my horizon, and I can meet new people and be connected to the students,” Rehkamp said. “Answering the phone and giving directions has definitely helped my communication skills.” Rehkamp said that the job is not time consuming, and employees are allowed to do their homework as long as it does not interfere with their work. First-year social work major Makayla Meadows

agreed with her co-worker that the job is easy-going, and she appreciates the social aspect that accompanies the work. “I enjoy being able to interact with people that come through the doors while also being able to complete my school work,” Meadows said. Meadows enjoys the atmosphere of Gallagher: “It is like the living room of campus. You see everyone coming in and out...it is a homey place, and I like being a part of it.” Working at GSC is not always easy, especially late at night. The student center is open 24 hours, and an employee is always required to be at the desk. “I work a lot of 2-6 a.m. shifts and when that 4 a.m. mark hits, you are ready to go to bed,” Rehkamp said. “It helps that every hour you have to get up and walk around the



Newswire photo courtesy of Alex Budzynski
First-year Lizzy Rehkamp is a student employee at the Gallagher Welcome Desk. The position is not open for applications at this time.

building to do a check.” Grabbing a snack from the vending machines is another strategy to push through late night shifts. Both employees recommend the position to students who have knowledge about

campus and good communication skills or anyone who has respectable music taste. The job is currently not open to applications, but keep an open eye for the opportunity to be a part of the heart of campus by working at GSC.

Oct. 15 Student Government Association Meeting Recap

Potential new clubs, It’s on X video and “Life Raft” debate

- Twelve new clubs have been given conditional status. While they are not yet considered official clubs, they will be able to reserve spaces on campus for meetings. They will later be reviewed by the Senate for full club status. Three of the clubs spoke at the meeting, and the others will speak in the upcoming weeks.
- A promotional video for It’s On X will be released on YouTube this Friday. SGA will also take part in the filming of a similar video for It’s On Cincinnati.
- SGA will be hosting a “Life Raft” debate in Kennedy Auditorium. The debate will mimic a post-apocalyptic world where professors will argue about why they believe their department should be let on the life raft. Senators are aiming to hold the event in mid-November.
- The Academic Affairs Committee addressed potential summer course offerings for 2019.

Off-Campus Weekend Fun

By **BRITTANY WELLS**
Staff Writer

If you’ve already shown your parents the campus, had them try the cafeteria food or made them stand with you in the cold to see the newest X shirt unveiled, you may as well try something new for Family Weekend. As a Cincinnati native, I’ve compiled a list of the top things to do this Family Weekend that aren’t Xavier organized events. **Go see the skyline from Devou Park, open 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.** Devou Park is in Covington, Ky., but it’s only a 15-minute drive from campus and has the best view of the Cincinnati skyline. Feel free to grab a 3-way to-go from Skyline or Gold Star Chili on the way just for the irony of it. With a perfect view of the

Queen City, Devou Park produces the quintessential skyline photo for your grandma’s fridge. **Explore the Cincinnati Art Museum, open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.** With free admission, the museum hosts daily tours and is a great place to bring family members. The entire museum is handicap accessible, generally slow paced and with minimal crowds. **Fall Food Fest Oct. 21, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Findlay Market** Findlay Market was the world’s first open air market and is one of many historical sites in Cincinnati that would be a great place to get a taste of the city before sending your parents home. Purchase tickets (one for \$2, six for \$10 or 15 for \$20) to sample a plethora of autumnal treats, includ-

ing apple cider, cinnamon and pumpkin-flavored desserts, caramel apples and more. Live music and kid friendly activities such as pumpkin painting and a spooky scavenger hunt are complimentary. **HallZOOween Oct. 20 and 21, noon – 5 p.m. at The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden** The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden is the second oldest zoo in the United States and gets extra spooky every year. It’s the perfect stop if you have young siblings or cousins coming to town. Attractions include trick-or-treat stations, special animal encounters, Beauty Shop of Horrors, Phil Dalton’s Theater of Illusion Shows, Hogwarts Express train ride, and the Scare-ousel. Admission is \$19 for adults and \$13 for children with additional charges

Soyuz spacecraft crew lands safely

Astronaut and cosmonaut OK after second ever successful mid-flight abortion

By MICHAEL SCHMELING
Guest Writer

NASA astronaut Nick Hague and cosmonaut Aleksey Ovchinin narrowly avoided disaster last Thursday when the launch of their Soyuz MS-10 spacecraft was aborted after a rocket failure, forcing a crash landing in Kazakhstan.

According to the Russian space agency Roscosmos, the craft went into a contingency abort mode when the astronauts reported feeling weightlessness at a time during the launch when they should have felt the downward force of acceleration.

Although the second stage of the spacecraft had disintegrated and the onboard Launch Escape System had already been ejected by the time the abort was officially declared, the crew was able to escape by performing an emergency separation of the MS-10 spacecraft and firing the rockets inside the rocket's fairing.

The spacecraft was then sent on a ballistic trajectory back to Earth but returned to the surface safely.

"I think often times people are inclined to look at situations like this as a negative," junior Mitch Tapia said. "All



The Russian space agency Roscosmos is investigating why a Soyuz MS-10 malfunctioned shortly after takeoff last Thursday. The investigation is expected to keep the Soyuz program grounded for at least several months.

they see is that the rocket malfunctioned. But honestly, I look at it as more of a positive that these issues can occur and yet technology has advanced far enough where the people involved are still able to get out safely."

The astronauts experienced approximately seven G's of force during the descent. The abort occurred

while the Soyuz was traveling more than 4,700 miles per hour at an altitude of more than 50 miles. It landed about 250 miles from the launch site.

Both Hague and Ovchinin were recovered by search and rescue teams and brought to the nearby Jezkazgan Airport.

Medical tests confirmed that they were in good health, and the two astronauts were

safely reunited with their families.

This incident marks the second time in the history of spaceflight that a manned rocket launch was successfully aborted mid-flight. A Soyuz 18a flight was similarly aborted after a separation failure in 1975. Both crew members survived that flight as well.

After the failure of the

Soyuz MS-10 flight, the Russian government ordered that all future Soyuz launches would be suspended and that a state commission and criminal investigation would be formed to figure out what happened.

This comes in the wake of another investigation into an incident related to Roscosmos after a hole was discovered drilled into the wall of the Soyuz MS-9 capsule currently aboard the International Space Station (ISS), causing a small pressure leak.

If the investigations keep the Soyuz program grounded, the ISS may have to be temporarily abandoned until the launch suspension is cleared or until the American Commercial Crew Program can send astronauts to the station.

This would be the first time in ISS's 20-year history that the station would need to be abandoned. If this is the case, ground controllers can still keep the station safe from space debris and orbital degradation for a few years despite the lack of proper day-to-day maintenance.

Dimitry Rogozin, the chief of Roscosmos, said the crew will be ready to fly again next spring provided the investigations go well.

Week in review: 50-state baby, a vampire? and EYES

- The All Fifty States Club is about to welcome its youngest member: a 5-month-old baby. Harper Yeats and her parents will officially join the club when they enter Vermont on Thursday. The couple documented their journey on Instagram and have applied to Guinness World Records to include their daughter's feat (Oct. 11).
- Archaeologists recently discovered what they dubbed a "vampire burial" at an ancient Roman site in Terevina, Italy. The body of a 10-year-old child was found with a stone placed inside its mouth as part of a ritual to prevent the corpse from rising from the dead. Locals nicknamed the child the "Vampire of Lugnano" (Oct. 13).
- A Medieval knight re-enactor died after a freak accident in which he impaled himself with a lance. Peter Barclay, who performed under the name Master Terafan Greydragon, was participating in an equestrian game when his lance hit the ground and flipped, stabbing him in the chest (Oct. 12).
- Savannah, Ga., authorities are on high alert after someone put googly eyes on a relief sculpture of Revolutionary War general Nathaniel Greene. Officials said the individual would face trespassing charges. Others took to social media to suggest an alternative punishment: tarring and google eying (Oct. 14).



5-month-old Harper smiles for a picture as she enters the land of Lincoln.

POLICE NOTES

Oct. 9, 9:32 p.m. — Xavier Police and Residence Life investigated a roommate dispute between students in Kuhlman Hall. The parties were separated, and Residence Life will follow up.

Oct. 9, 11:18 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Physical Plant with property damage in Albers Hall. A water leak on the third floor caused damage to several rooms throughout the building.

Oct. 10, 12:21 a.m. — Three students were caught smoking marijuana in the Victory Family Park. The students were referred to the code of conduct.

Oct. 12, 12:13 a.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire, Physical Plant and Residence Life responded to Brockman Hall for a fire alarm. The system was reset.

Oct. 12, 11:24 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Residence Life with a room search in the Village

NOTE OF THE WEEK

Let the Domino's fall where they may

Oct. 13, 12:10 a.m. — Norwood Fire and Rescue transported an underage intoxicated student from the lobby of Domino's Pizza on Montgomery Road to Mercy Brockwood Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning.

Apartments. A small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia was confiscated during the search. Residence Life will follow up.

Oct. 13, 12:29 a.m. — Cincinnati Fire and Rescue transported an underage intoxicated student from Husman Hall to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning.

Oct. 13, 2:18 a.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Residence Life responded to Brockman Hall for a fire alarm. Burnt popcorn acti-

vated the alarm. The system was reset.

Oct. 13, 5:28 p.m. — Xavier Police investigated reports of an intoxicated student found sleeping in a restroom stall in Hinkle Hall. The student was cited for disorderly conduct and released.

Oct. 13, 10:58 p.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire and Residence Life responded to a fire alarm at Brockman Hall. Burnt popcorn activated the alarm. The alarm was reset.

Oct. 14, 1:40 p.m. — Xavier Police assisted Physical Plant with property damage in Schott Hall. A water leak caused damages to offices on the seventh and eighth floors of the building.

Oct. 15, 8:47 p.m. — Xavier Police, Cincinnati Fire responded to a fire alarm in Brockman Hall. Investigation revealed that a broken water pipe in the basement activated the alarm.

Endorsement: BDA shines as Executive ticket

This year’s Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Election presents four tickets, one more than last year. These four tickets made for an especially exciting campaign season — BDA, CMW, RRE and TKT all presented thoughtful ideas in their platforms and together bring a wide range of experiences and passions to the student body.

The *NewsWire* interviewed each ticket in addition to moderating a public debate and reviewing their platforms and qualifications. Based on the performances of each ticket, the *NewsWire* has decided to endorse BDA. This decision was based on a predetermined scoring system and entailed careful consideration of all the aforementioned factors. In addition, this endorsement does not reflect the opinion of one editor but rather eight members of the editorial staff.

Below are the official evaluations of each ticket in terms of professionalism, balance, passion and feasibility, as well as an overall grade that represents the average of their combined scores.

Professionalism

Professionalism encompasses not only how the tickets conducted themselves during the interview and debate but also how they prepared and presented their platforms. Ultimately, BDA emerged on top; their platform was well-presented and well-researched. In addition, during the interview and debate, the ticket members were personable and spoke with confidence about all of their policy points, regardless of the person whose ideas they represented. CMW likewise carried themselves well, but their platform was not as well-researched or detailed, earning them a slightly lower grade.

RRE and TKT earned lower scores for similar reasons. Both tickets lacked consistency in research across their platforms, and members of both tickets did not seem adequately prepared for the interviews or debate. RRE also did not seem engaged with each other or other tickets during the debate.

Balance

The SGA Executives run as a team, and the winning ticket must govern as a team of three equal partners while representing the student body. For this reason, we define balance as a shared vision that includes diverse ideas, backgrounds, experiences and passions. BDA exhibited the most balance of any group. This was particularly shown in their ability to build on each other’s points and meaningfully share speaking time in the interview and debate. They also covered a wide range of involvements that they could readily discuss, meaning they could represent and reach the most number of students across campus.

CMW, TKT and RRE earned lower scores for various reasons. CMW’s platform does demonstrate a diversity of ideas and areas of outreach, but we do not feel that they present enough diversity in terms of involvements and experiences across campus. TKT focused on just two ideas during the interview and debate in addition to their lack of diverse backgrounds. RRE earned the lowest score because it seemed that a single person and their ideas dominated the ticket. This was demonstrated in the platform itself, as well as how much ticket members spoke and how they interacted with each other in the interview and debate.

Passion

Passion concerns how the tickets communicate their investment in their platforms and what they are willing to do to execute their ideas. BDA were eager to share ideas and experiences, and they spoke not only about the ideas themselves but also why they were invested in them and why they would serve students. They demonstrated the most passion for serving the student body and fostering campus growth.

RRE also showed passion, but again, it seemed like the interests and passions of a single ticket member overpowered those of the other ticket members. The lack of engagement with each other

during the interview and debate also pointed to a lack of shared vision.

On the other hand, while we do not doubt CMW or TKT have passion for their ideas or for the position, neither ticket communicated it effectively.

Feasibility

Feasibility is the likelihood of each ticket’s platforms being executed. BDA and RRE stand tied at the top in this category for slightly different reasons. BDA’s platform includes a large number of smaller, easily implemented projects, and they were able to explain how they would achieve them as well adapt them to make them more feasible. However, we would have liked to see more long-term, ambitious projects that they could begin and leave for others to continue. In terms of RRE’s platform, we cannot deny that many of their ideas are feasible, and we appreciate the thoroughness with which they explain their execution. That said, many of these proposals are already set to roll out regardless of who assumes the Executive position.

CMW’s platform identifies several issues across campus but does not elaborate on how to go about resolving them. Similarly, in the interview and debate, they recognized problems but did not address solutions. TKT seemed to lack the knowledge on how to execute many of their ideas, and their platform also did not adequately explain how to address the issues they identified. In combination with their lack of an ability to communicate passion, they did not seem to have the drive or the know-how to execute their ideas.

The *NewsWire* commends all tickets for presenting their visions for enacting change on campus, and we encourage those not elected to continue to push for their implementation. We also encourage all students, no matter who they support, to thoroughly review all of the platforms before they cast their votes. The election begins this morning, Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 8 a.m. and concludes at 8 p.m.

<i>Final Grades:</i>	BDA
Professionalism	A
Balance	A
Passion	A
Feasibility	B+
Average	A

<i>Final Grades:</i>	CMW
Professionalism	B+
Balance	C+
Passion	C
Feasibility	C-
Average	C+

<i>Final Grades:</i>	RRE
Professionalism	C
Balance	D+
Passion	B-
Feasibility	B+
Average	C+

<i>Final Grades:</i>	TKT
Professionalism	C
Balance	C
Passion	C
Feasibility	D+
Average	C

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Staff Announcement

Because of their candidacy for SGA Executive, Riley Head (Arts & Entertainment Editor) and Alfredo Mercedes (Business & Advertising Manager) will be taking a leave of absence from the *NewsWire* for the duration of the campaign. Their departure is to ensure an impartial endorsement process.

Advertising

All advertising inquiries should be directed to newswire@xavier.edu.

For Your Information

The Xavier *NewsWire* is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacations and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207. One copy is free per person per week.

*The *NewsWire* has made the decision to stray from the AP Style Guide when printing the words White and Black in reference to groups of people. We have decided to capitalize both.

My majors mean nothing to me

I know. You probably looked at the title, then immediately checked out my little blurb, only to see that I have not one, not two but three majors. Their combined length gives the Opinions & Editorials page editor a headache since he has to fit them all into one space. “Who does this chick think she is?” you might be asking yourself. “How can she say she doesn’t care about majors and yet be committed to so many?”

You have a fair point. To



Soondos Mulla Ossman is a senior *DIFT*, English and computer science triple major. She is the Features Editor for the Newswire from Cincinnati.

not place significance on my majors that will ideally lead to the career I seek must automatically mean I’m not truly dedicated enough to have them — or any, for that matter — in the first place.

Either on Xavier Preview Day or during Manresa, we had some breakout groups. In mine, I was introduced to an undergrad student who was triple majoring. I’ve long forgotten her year, what her majors were and even what she looked like. However, I remembered the fact that she had three majors. For whatever reason, it stuck with me.

There was never a moment in my Xavier career when I had one single major. Last day of Manresa, I added the English major alongside biology. I looked at this student who admitted to me she was not a double major but a triple major, and I thought to myself, “Double majoring is manageable, but triple majoring? That’s just too much for me.” The people who triple major are really of a whole other

caliber. I was not on this level, so I could never do something like that.

You will not find the biology major in my blurb, so clearly I swapped it for some other things — but because I started attending Xavier as one, I was invited back to the weekly “Freshman Fridays” event held for first-year biology students earlier this semester. I was asked to speak as someone who did not take the “traditional” biology path and is still finding her own success.

Mentioning my old majors and current ones was a crucial part of explaining my path at Xavier up until this point. When I dropped majors like hot potatoes, I got shocked looks, murmurs and suppressed gasps from an otherwise muted first-year crowd. They were giving *me* the exact same look and thinking the exact same thing I had when I met a triple major several years ago.

Sure, this probably was supposed to be a sign of self-im-

provement — a “look how far you’ve come” moment. People call me smart, people call me dedicated, people draw all kinds of unflinching conclusions the moment I let slip my academic studies.

But it’s too shallow. Three majors don’t mean anything. The departments attributed to my name are just that. Having two or three majors doesn’t mean I’m also a more accomplished student within each major. It just means I’ve signed up to do triple the work if I intend to maintain the same grades and put forth the same effort.

I’m almost never the “best” student in class, at least in my eyes. Sure, I take every measure I can: I sit at the front, take vigorous notes, do homework whenever I have even a fragment of free time instead of taking time to myself. This places me in what I consider to be the upper tier of the classroom, but never the best. There’s always someone else who knows the answer to a question I don’t. There’s al-

ways someone who’s able to solve a problem a little faster than me.

I know the extra amount of time it’ll take to get to the top, but because I depleted just about all of my available time in my other two fields, it is just about impossible for me to make that investment. In other words, while I can be “good” at all three of my majors, I fear I cannot be the best at one. All the time I am spending right now on my three different fields of study could all be poured into a single major. What kind of English major would I be if I was like that? Computer science major? Digital innovation, film and television major? I wonder about that sometimes, though I have no answer.

I just know that what really matter to me are the things I learn through the exploration of the majors I’ve chosen to pursue: how to hold a camera, how to tell a computer to do things and how to write. Not the fancy titles that are associated with them.

To be free or to be safe: Challenge yourself

If you had to pick, which would you choose: being free or being safe? I am fairly certain that a pretty good number would have different answers. After all, I think we can all agree that they are both good things. We like to be free and make our own decisions, and we like to be safe from harm.

Personally, I would choose freedom over safety if given the choice. In part, it’s because I like knowing that when I choose something, the consequences of that choice are something that I’m responsible for, whether they’re good or bad. It’s also partially because I want to become the best individual that I can be, and safety doesn’t allow for that at all.

I’m all for safety precautions that make sense — wearing a helmet when you ride a bike or trying not to walk by yourself late at night. There

are plenty of safety precautions that make total sense and should be actively encouraged. Those are entirely separate from the type of safety that I mean when I say safety doesn’t allow for the betterment of the individual.

I’ve written previously about how thankful I was to come to the realization that a number of the problems that I faced in my life were, in some way, my own fault. It’s a sobering realization and one that I only came to after a number of pretty poor decisions, bad ideas and flawed resolutions. I’ve been trying to be better because I don’t want to make those same mistakes again, especially when I’ll be thrust into the real world in a few months.

If I were to be safely insulated from the consequences of my actions up until graduation, at which point I would

be ostensibly on my own, then I would likely fail. Failure in college can certainly cause some changes in your life, but failure in the real world? That could mean losing a job or losing out on a new opportunity.

The reason I’m emphasizing freedom so much in this article is because that’s really the better option. Safety is a good option, but you only get safety when you give up some freedom. The same is true the opposite way: More freedom means less safety. Yet, the sacrifice of safety is much more worthwhile than the sacrifice of freedom.

How so? When you give up freedom to gain safety, safety is all you gain. Meanwhile, you lose the freedom to make real and impactful choices. You are instead stuck in a bubble of stagnancy where you will be forever the same. But by giving up safety, you unlock a

massive potential that will utterly change your life.

I’m not going to lie about the fact that those changes could be bad. If you have been kept safe and sedated most of your life, you’ll probably make some poor decisions at first. That’s how you learn to be better. It’s why freedom is so important early on when we’re growing up. We have to learn from our own mistakes before the consequences are large enough to permanently hamper us if things go wrong.

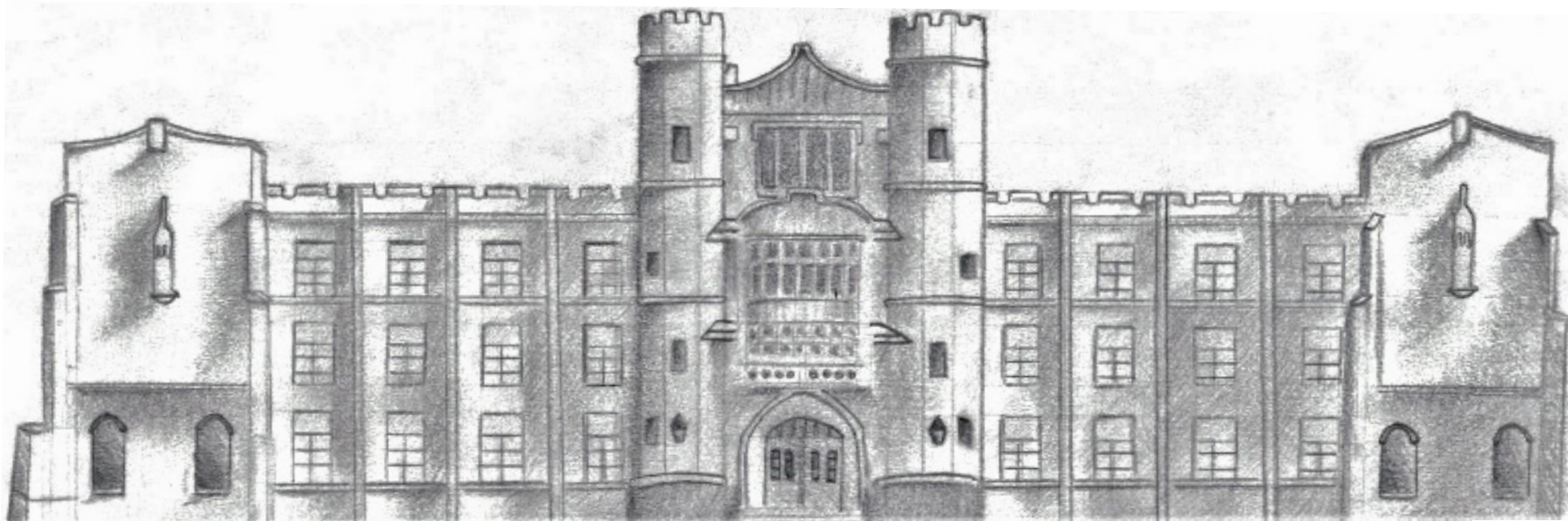
So take advantage of the freedom you have to explore and understand yourself now in a place where the consequences aren’t overly significant. Sure, you might screw up and you might get hurt, but you might be challenged like never before. It’s equally possible that you could discover a new passion, learn a new skillset or build new and last-

ing friendships.

This is the burden — and gift — of freedom: to have unbelievable success and to become a better person must be as possible as the opposite in order for you to achieve the former. It’s far better to risk that now than sometime later when you have the burdens of life in the real world weighing down your launch to success.



Colin Lang is a senior history and Philosophy, Politics and the Public double major. He is a staff writer for the Newswire from Westlake, Ohio.



XC closes regular season at Bradley Pink Classic

By **DONNIE MENKE**
Staff Writer

The Xavier cross country teams wrapped up the regular season last Friday at the Bradley Pink Classic, which was held in Peoria, Ill.

The women's team placed ninth out of 39 teams and had a strong showing. The men's team also had a good showing, finishing 17th out of 33 teams.

The top finisher for the women's side was sophomore Jenna Clayworth, who posted a time of 21:19.50, to etch her name into the record books for the ninth-best 6K time in school history.

She placed 20th in the race — an event that featured 298 runners. Sophomore Anna Kostarellis had the second-best time on the team, finishing the race in 21:32.60 and in 34th place.

Freshman Maya Hannagan and sophomore Jennifer Prial both finished in the top 100 with times of 21:57.40 and 22:11.30, while placing 68th and 95th, respectively.

"Individually, Maya Hannagan stepped it up a lot to-



Photo courtesy of goxavier.com

Sophomore Jenna Clayworth's time of 21:19.50 landed her with a 20th-place finish out of 298 runners at the Bradley Pink Classic last Friday. With this result, she also set the ninth-best 6K time in school history.

day and had a great race," head coach Ryan Orner told goxavier.com. "She ran smart in the first mile, held strong in the middle of the race and finished the last 600 better than she has in the past."

On the men's side, freshman Thomas Gardiner led the

team with a time of 25:31.00, securing 53rd place out of 273 runners. Senior Grayson Jenkins finished just behind Gardiner in 55th place with a time of 25:31.80. Junior John Hautz also finished in the top 100, placing 79th with a time of 25:49.50.

"Individually, Tom, Grayson and Jack all had a really good race," Orner said.

Up next for the Musketeers is the Big East Championship. The women's cross country team will head into the event ranked 15th in the United States Track & Field

and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Great Lakes Regional poll after being unranked last week. The conference championship will take place on Oct. 27 at 11 a.m. in Carmel, Ind.

Afterward, the Musketeers can qualify to run in the NCAA Championships starting with the Great Lakes Regional — an event scheduled for Nov. 9 in Terre Haute, Ind.

According to the criteria listed on ustfccca.org, a total of 31 teams compete at the NCAA Championships. Of those teams, 18 will advance from the regional stage (the top two teams from each region).

The remaining teams will run as at-large bids. The selection process for at-large bids takes into consideration a regular season review of results as well as times finalized at regional championships.

Additionally, 38 individuals for each of the men's and women's sides are chosen to compete at the NCAA Championships, including the top four runners in each region and two additional runners as at-large selections.

Astros have tools for World Series run

By **TIM KRAMER**
Staff Writer

Just about two weeks into the MLB playoffs, only four teams remain. The American League is being represented by the Houston Astros and the Boston Red Sox. The National League stands with the Milwaukee Brewers and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Both of these series are quite compelling, considering they arguably consist of the two best teams in each league. October baseball is in full swing and should have baseball fans everywhere excited for the future.

The Astros and Red Sox have matched up quite evenly thus far into their series.

The Astros are undoubtedly the most complete team in baseball. They are led by young stars Alex Bregmen, George Springer and Carlos Correa. All the while, they still hold the veteran presence of Justin Verlander, Jose Altuve and Brian McCann.

What seems to separate the Astros from the rest of the league is the bullpen. Houston's bullpen can get long innings from Lance McCullers, Jr., who has flourished in the reliever role this season. Setup man Ryan Pressley put together a career year as well, with a 2.54 ERA and 101 strikeouts in the regular season. During the trade deadline the Astros got what they needed — a closer — after landing Roberto Osuna in a trade with the Toronto Blue Jays. This has provided Houston with a stable back end to the bullpen that was not pres-

ent with the team's former closer, Ken Giles.

The Boston Red Sox combat the Astros with an offense led by Mookie Betts, Andrew Benintendi and J.D. Martinez. They also throw out two former CY Young winners in Chris Sale and Rick Porcello. However, the Red Sox's bullpen is going to need to perform better if they want to move forward and win the World Series.

In recent weeks the bullpen has become an even bigger concern with the struggles of All-Star closer Craig Kimbrel. Kimbrel was one pitch away from blowing ALDS Game 4 against the Yankees and did not look strong in Game 2 of the ALCS. David Price will be a guy the Red Sox need if they want to succeed. His career playoff numbers — including relief appearances — are shocking. He is 2-9 with a 5.42 ERA. We will have to wait and see if the lack of pitching will hold Boston back from a World Series appearance.

The Dodgers and Brewers have had incredible series so far. The Dodgers might have the most talented team in the National League, but they are playing against the hottest team in the MLB.

The Brewers have been making moves left and right beginning this offseason, with the acquisitions of outfielder Lorenzo Cain and MVP candidate Christian Yelich.

Milwaukee also made transactions at the trade deadline by adding infielders Mike Moustakas and Jona-



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

The Houston Astros, last year's World Series Champions, have advanced to the ALCS and are making a strong push to win a second-straight title.

than Scoop.

The Brew Crew has also seen the emergence of first baseman Jesus Aguilar and stud relief pitcher Josh Hader. The Brewers might not be the most talented team, but they are young, hungry and have brought a baseball buzz to Milwaukee that I have never seen before.

It's hard to find weaknesses in the Los Angeles Dodgers. They have 12 to 13 position players that have proven and good enough to every day players in the MLB.

For example, veteran players such as Brian Dozier and Joc Peterson have been in the postseason before, and they

do not find their names in the lineup card every day.

The Dodgers rotation is led by three-time Cy Young winner Clayton Kershaw and rookie sensation Walker Buehler, with a bullpen held down by All-Star Kenley Jansen. Acquiring star shortstop Manny Machado might be what puts this Dodgers team over the edge.

Each of these teams has a chance to win the World Series, but it is going to come down to managing, execution and timely hitting.

My prediction is that the Astros will defeat the Dodgers in six games, repeating as World Series Champions.

Xavier Scores

Women's Soccer

The Musketeers blanked Marquette by a final score of 3-0 last Sunday.

Men's Tennis

Senior Jack Dykema and sophomore Brett Winters each advanced to the Round of 32 at the ITA Ohio Valley Regionals, which took place in Knoxville, Tenn., last weekend.

Women's Golf

The Xavier women's golf team brought home first place overall at the MAC Fall Preview, which concluded on Monday. Senior Mikayla Smith, junior Mikayla Fitzpatrick, freshman Ke'asha Phillips and graduate student Lyndsey Hunnell all posted top-10 individual finishes.

Volleyball

The Musketeers scored a road win against Butler last Saturday, winning the game three sets to one. Senior outside hitter Laura Grossman connected for a team-high and career-high 21 kills while also recording 24 digs. Senior right side hitter Morgan Finn also contributed double-digit kills with 12 points.

Big Mouth's sequel season just OK

Preachiness and over-inclusion of comedic relief characters ruin its potential

BY AIDAN CALLAHAN
Guest Writer

Big Mouth is the most relatable show about puberty you will ever watch. I believe it's very important for an animated program to use the fact that it's animated to its advantage, and this is where *Big Mouth* shines — its visual representation of the horribly awkward turmoil of kids going through puberty. For example, the aggressive "hormone monster" literally shows how hormones can be monstrous, causing characters to do things they normally wouldn't do and embarrassing them at every turn.

The newest season expands on these ideas perfectly, from simple sight gags like the hormone monster flying in on a blimp with a sign that

reads "Andrew has a boner," to whole new characters like "The Shame Wizard," an anthropomorphized version of the kids' shame played by a perfectly casted David Thewlis (you may remember him from an oddly similar role in *Fargo* season 3).

But the reason I don't think this season deserves a 5/5 or even a 4/5 is that it doesn't explore these ideas enough. It is bogged down with problems persisting from last season. I think there are two main problems: preachiness and over-inclusion of comedic relief characters.

I'll start with the latter: I think Andrew and Nick as main characters are funny enough on their own (Andrew is voiced by John Mulaney, for gosh sake), yet the show finds



Photo courtesy of Indiewire
The Netflix series *Big Mouth* released its second season on Oct 5. The show follows a group of sixth-graders as they experience the wonders and horrors of puberty. Cast members include John Mulaney and Jordan Peele.

it necessary to often ignore their storylines to give air time to characters like Coach Steve. Don't get me wrong, Coach Steve is a very funny character, but he'd be a lot funnier if we weren't seeing him constantly. It's like he's the only teacher in the school, and his voice and childish antics can get tiresome.

Jay seems to have gotten less human and more gross, yet he takes up plenty of screen time. It's like the writers feel the show isn't funny enough on its own without these two characters being over-the-top all the time, and they counteract how human the other characters feel.

Another way to dehumanize characters is treating them as vessels of propaganda. I'm not against a show trying to spread a good message, but the writers need to be subtle about it or at least not beat you over the head with it. *Big Mouth* season 2 forces its agenda down your throat. I'm not anti-Planned Parenthood, but you shouldn't stop a season in its tracks so you can have a whole episode devoted to being a pro-Planned Parenthood clip show.

Similarly, it's good to empower women, but when you have a whole musical number of naked women dancing and singing about how strong

they are, it's not funny or particularly entertaining (the song wasn't even that good). It's just boring. What happened to this show being clever and subtle while delivering a thoughtful and relevant message?

Overall, this season is good, and if you liked the first season you'll definitely like this one. I truly believe this show has an amazing potential that it is simply not letting itself live up to.

Total score:



Photo courtesy of Netflix
Like the characters pictured above, guest writer Aidan Callahan had mixed reactions to the second season of the animated series *Big Mouth*.

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Cross Cultural Retreat

Saturday, October 27th, 2018

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Meet at Bellarmine Circle

Cost: \$20.00 / Person

Lunch, Dinner, and Transportation Provided

Sign up by Friday, October 19th in the Center for International Education in GSC 230!

Register at: www.xavier.edu/CCR

Free T-Shirt when you sign up by October 19th!

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Distraction	Tutoring	Plan
Internet	Rushed	Semester
Office	Completion	Stages
Midnight	Lecture	Trend



Aries: You might want to fight for more self-serving things, but generosity opens more doors than it closes...or maybe Physical Plant finally got your door working again.



Taurus: Emotional support pets are in sync with you this week. They'll sit, they'll lay down, unless they're cats. Those will just give you that *look*, and it will make you sad.



Gemini: Approach hectic schedules with a level head. Don't be afraid to *yeet* from meetings in order to spoil yourself with food like sushi or Buca. Your freshman 15 will agree with you.



Cancer: Watch out for some conflicts this week. You know the door that's supposed to open automatically when you tug on it, but when it's halfway closed it fights you? Yeah.



Leo: There's a silver lining to people not wanting to hang out with you anymore...like having a bunch of extra hours to binge watch the tragedy shows Netflix recommends you.



Virgo: You know how sometimes you want professors to explain concepts to you like you're five? Your friends and classmates might need that from you too, sometimes.



Libra: Embrace your sporadic decisions this week...like getting ATM pizza at 4a.m.



Scorpio: It's time to start begging your professors for extensions on assignments and makeup days for exams.



Sagittarius: A game-changing realization is probably coming to you this week: either deciding you want another major or minor, or one less...or to just drop out of school.



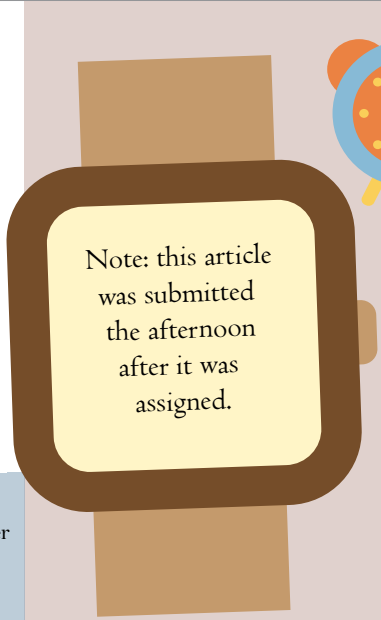
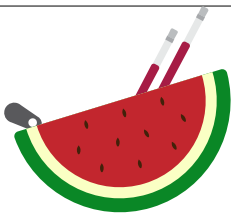
Capricorn: You're in such a good groove, you could start a five-page paper due the next day at midnight, have it done at 2a.m. and still get in a solid eight hours of sleep. Keep it up.



Aquarius: You might be feeling a bit like the Executive tickets right now, or maybe you are the Executive tickets — people are saying a lot about you. Accept feedback but keep your cool.



Pisces: Have you ever seen what the inside of a freezer is like? Have a headache? Kill two birds with one stone by sticking your head in your nearest available freezer.



How to not procrastinate

By LUKE FELICIANO
Sports Editor



1. Get assignments done early

One method that works really well is to plan ahead. If you know you have an assignment due soon, get it done as early as possible. This way, the assignment is not only done, but it also opens up a window of time for leisure and/or the completion of other assignments that are due simultaneously. I found that getting work done in advance (sometimes even two weeks early) helped me tremendously. This also helps when considering unforeseen circumstances that might affect an assignment, such as last minute add-ons or alterations. This may also give you time to discuss the work with your professor. Definitely utilize office hours to your advantage!

2. Work in stages

When it comes to big assignments or time-consuming tasks, my suggestion is to work on it in stages (or parts at a time). This not only makes the assignment feel shorter but also pays dividends when you won't have to burn the midnight oil. Oftentimes, your best work isn't reflected in an assignment or task if you wait until the day of it being due to complete it. If you do this, your work may come out as rushed or sloppy. This procedure works best with larger assignments that can take multiple days to finish.



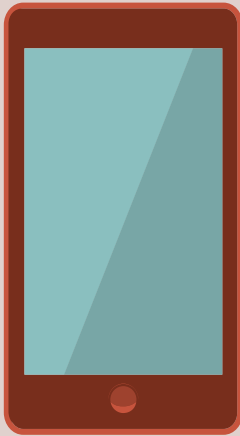
3. Take notice of major assignments

In my two-plus years here at Xavier, I've noticed a trend that seems to resurface almost every semester. While some weeks have less work, others have a bunch of work. Additionally, major assignments listed on the syllabus always seem to pile up around the same time. During the first week of the semester, I like to make a list of major assignments for each class and scratch them off as the due dates pass. This way, I am able to map out my semester more easily.



4. Eliminate distractions

In this day and age, it's difficult to not get distracted by electronics. This especially rings true when working on a computer that has the ability to distract you with the Internet. My advice to you is take a minute to put down your phone and lock in on an assignment. Listening to music is fine — in some cases it gets me into a rhythm to do something like type an essay.



5. Seek help early

College is hard. Sometimes not all of the material needed for class is covered during lecture, so there's a good chance you will need to seek help at some point. Waiting to get help on an assignment is detrimental to the end product. There are many outlets to seek help starting with talking to your professor. You can also schedule a tutoring session if you are stuck on a concept, and don't forget, peers are your friends. Per the Jesuit values that have been instilled in all of us, we are Musketeers for and with others. You can always ask a peer for help on a problem or for advice on how to complete an assignment that is familiar to them.

